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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

TERRI SCHIFFMAN

Name

Terri Schiffman

Signature

June 8, 2005

Date

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Petrukhin, et al.

Serial No.: 09/622,964 – Case No.: 20177YP

Filed: December 12, 2000

For: BEST'S MACULAR DYSTROPHY GENE

Art Unit:

1653

Examiner:

Schnizer, Holly G.

MAIL STOP AF  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

Responsive to the outstanding Final Office Action dated April 8, 2005, in the above-identified application, having a THREE (3) month period for response which expires on July 8, 2005. Applicants respectfully request the following response be entered so as to place the application in a better form for Appeal or in a condition for Allowance.

Please charge any fees required in connection with this submission or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.